

Cognitive Neuroscience Section
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

National Institutes of Health

Applicant Statement of Purpose

Name_____ **Date**_____

Please send an updated resume and write a short essay (1-2 pages) addressing your educational background, research experience, major areas of research interest, immediate and long-term professional goals, and why you think coming to the Cognitive Neuroscience Section would help you achieve your goals. Please begin your essay on *this* sheet. Please also attach your current curriculum vitae.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Cognitive Neuroscience Section Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program

Please mail directly to:

Applicant's Name

Jordan Grafman, Ph.D.

Chief, Cognitive Neuroscience Section
NIH/NINDS/MNB
10 Center Drive MSC-1440
Bldg. 10; Room 5C205
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-1440
ATTN: Applicant Recommendation

Recommender's Name

To ensure prompt and efficient evaluation of this applicant, please use this form for your recommendation and return it to us as soon as possible.

In relation to graduate students/medical students/post-doctoral fellows (circle one) I have known, I would rank the applicant's abilities and motivation:

___in the top 50% ___in the top 25% ___in the top 10% ___in the top 5% ___as good as the best

Please assign a score from 1 (weak) to 10 (strong), assessing the applicant on each of the following measures:

- ___ my knowledge of this applicant
- ___ research promise
- ___ mastery of course content
- ___ independence
- ___ teaching promise
- ___ interpersonal relations
- ___ likeability
- ___ originality/creativity
- ___ productivity

We solicit your candid evaluation of the applicant's preparation for the cognitive neuroscience fellowship program, range of abilities and accomplishments, and creative intellectual promise. Please summarize your opinions of the applicant's (a) quality of academic and research achievements; (b) scholarly potential for original work; (c) personality and character which are important for collaborative work; and (d) special skills and expertise in cognitive neuroscience. Please use additional sheets as necessary. Be sure to indicate for how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant. Thank you very much.

**Cognitive Neuroscience Section
Medical Neurology Branch
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke**

Dear Prospective Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Cognitive Neuroscience Section at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. Enclosed are the necessary materials and instructions you need to apply for a post-doctoral fellowship in the Section. We will need from you an updated CV, 3 letters of recommendation, a statement of research interest (what research you would like to pursue in the Section), and a few assorted other materials. If you have any questions about these forms, please call us at your convenience. Candidates interested in beginning a fellowship between the months of July and October should have all their forms completed and returned to us by the previous February 1st. Occasionally fellowships may begin at another time and those applications will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

There is basically one kind of postdoctoral fellowship position in the Section. It is a 2-3 year training program for physicians, psychologists, and other health professionals that provides research training and experience in cognitive neuropsychology and behavioral neurology.

The focus of the Cognitive Neuroscience Section is planning, reasoning and executive functions and their breakdown; memory and amnesia; knowledge components, their underlying cognitive architecture, and the dissolution of knowledge in neurological disease; neuroplasticity, and social cognition. The operating framework to study these disorders is cognitive science although we combine this approach with state-of-the-art neuroscience techniques such as PET, fMRI, and Magnetic Stimulation.

The Cognitive Neuroscience Section is housed in the NIH Clinical Center. While office space has been, and will remain, quite crowded, the Section's state-of-the-art equipment, facilities, numerous resources, and collaborative NIH faculty provides ample opportunity for the development of innovative research.

The Section has a firm and continuing commitment to increasing the participation of historically underrepresented groups in cognitive neuropsychology and cognitive neuroscience.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) is located on the National Institutes of Health campus in Bethesda, Maryland just a few miles north of Washington, D.C. The attractive campus is easily accessible by car and there is a red-line metro stop on the edge of campus as well as many bus-line stops. The Washington, D.C. metropolitan area is a magnet for theatre, concerts, restaurants, museums, and sports. Baltimore is just 35 minutes drive by car.

Again, please look carefully at the enclosed application and information package. If you have any further questions about our program or the application process, please contact: Ms. Chauna Fleming (Ph. 301-496-

0220/FAX. 301-480-2909) regarding administrative issues or Dr. Jordan Grafman regarding substantive issues.

**Jordan Grafman, Ph.D.
Chief, Cognitive Neuroscience Section**

NIH/NINDS/MNB
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10 CENTER DRIVE MSC 1440
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20892-1440

Phone: 301-496-0220
FAX: 301-480-2909
E-Mail: JGR@box-j.nih.gov

Cognitive Neuroscience Section Fellowships and Awards

Salaries are from 1998 and may currently be higher

1. Intramural Research Training Awards:

Post-Doctoral Eligibility -

Individuals must be U.S. citizens or have permanent residence. Must have a doctorate or M.D. in biomedical, behavioral, or related sciences. Individuals must have less than 5 years postdoctoral research experience or less than 7 years for clinicians with 2 years of clinical training.

Starting Salary - \$27,500 to \$42,000 annually
(depending on years of postdoctoral experience)

Predoctoral Eligibility -

Individuals must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents (resident alien). Fellowships may be awarded to students enrolled in M.D., Ph.D., D.D.S., D.M.D., D.V.M., or equivalent degree programs at fully accredited U.S. universities. Students must be admitted to graduate school and be a doctoral degree candidate before they can be considered for this program. It is expected that the students will have completed their first year of graduate course work before beginning the program (although this is not a requirement).

Starting Salary - \$17,600 to \$22,600 annually
(depending on years of predoctoral experience)

Summer Eligibility -

Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents (resident aliens), enrolled at least half-time in high school, college, graduate or professional programs, be in good academic standing, and at least 16 years old. Sons and daughters of Institute employees may be employed if the parent does not have authority for resource allocations within the employing laboratory or branch. Applications must be submitted to the Office of Education.

Starting Salary - \$990 to \$2,200 monthly
(depending on educational level)

2. Staff or Senior Staff Fellow:

Eligibility -

Must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien who would be eligible for citizenship within 4 years. Must either have been awarded a doctoral degree in a biomedical, behavioral, or related science, or have been certified by a university as meeting all the requirements leading to such a doctorate. Candidates with less than 3 years of professional level research experience must enter the program as Staff Fellows. Senior Staff Fellowships may be offered to those having 3 to 7 years of professional level research experience or who are physicians with 3 or more years of specialty training in fields related to NIH research. Individuals having more than 7 years of postdoctoral research experience require special approval for appointment in this Fellowship Program. Candidates with less than three years of professional level experience begin at a salary level comparable to an IRTA Fellow.

Staff Fellow Salary -

M.D.'s - \$29,000 - \$52,000

Ph.D.'s - \$29,000 - \$50,000

Senior Staff Fellow Salary -

M.D.'s - \$40,000 - \$79,000

Ph.D.'s - \$35,000 - \$67,000

3. Special Expert:

Eligibility -

Special Experts must meet OPM X-118 Qualifications Standards at the GS-13 level or above. U.S. Citizen or citizen of allied country or permanent resident.

Starting Salary - \$52,200 to \$118,400

(depending on pay range he/she qualifies for)

4. Commissioned Officer - Public Health Service:

Eligibility -

To meet the basic appointment criteria an individual must be a U.S. citizen, be under 44 years of age, meet medical fitness and security standards, and meet educational standards for an appropriate category or discipline. Applicants over age 44 may be considered if they have offsetting prior military service or prior PHS civil service.

Pay as a commissioned officer is comprised of three basic parts:

- A. Basic Pay
- B. Basic Allowance for Quarters
- C. Basic Allowance for Subsistence

5. Visiting Fellow:

Eligibility -

Applicants must be non-citizens of the U.S. and have a doctoral or equivalent degree in the bio-medical sciences. The Visiting Fellow award period is meant to provide a training period for the junior scientist who has less than three years of relevant research experience.

Starting Salary to \$27,500 - \$42,000
(depending on years of postdoctoral experience)

6. Visiting Associate/Scientist:

Eligibility -

Applicants must be non U.S. citizens. Must have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in the biomedical sciences. The Visiting Associate program is designed for scientists with 3 to 6 years of relevant post doctoral experience. Visiting Scientists must have at least 6 years of relevant postdoctoral experience.

Visiting Associates Starting Salary -
\$29,000 - \$55,000

Visiting Scientists Starting Salary -
\$42,000 - \$91,000

7. Guest Researcher:

Eligibility -

Individuals must be a qualified technically trained academic scientist, engineer, student or other scientifically trained specialist. Guest Researchers are sponsored and paid by outside organizations. The researcher usually has an advanced degree in the natural or medical sciences. Those who are self-supporting scientists must have the appropriate Lab-Branch Chief certify research credentials and adequate financial resources including that the research will be of direct benefit to the Guest Researcher and not for the specific purpose of performing services for NIH. May be non immigrants or permanent residents, may also be citizens of allied, neutral or Soviet bloc countries.

Starting Salary - Not compensated by the Federal Government. Sponsored and paid by outside organizations.

8. Special Volunteer:

Eligibility -

Anyone over 16 years old but under 18 years old must have parental approval. Department employees cannot provide volunteer services during normal work hours. Generally, the NINDS does not allow NIH Special Volunteers to work in the same laboratory/branch as a parent or spouse. Not required to be a citizen.

Starting Salary - Not compensated by Federal Government. May receive support from outside sources with approval.